

From: Shelley Way
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 6:14pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I have worked at Microsoft for over ten years. It has been an incredible experience to be part of this company. I started here supporting customers on Microsoft products. This companies success has been in listening to what customers want and delivering it.

I have seen this company grow from approximately 10,000 employees to over 50,000 employees. I have seen the tremendous growth of high tech jobs in the Puget Sound region and throughout the United States. It amazes me that the Clinton administration can take credit for our unprecedented economic growth and yet attack the company that significantly contributed to that growth over the past decade. I can assure you that Microsoft employees in general are hard working, smart, and driven to change the world through technology. We are also people of integrity. We compete aggressively with other software companies, but isn't that the nature of a capitalist society?

Microsoft employees are also very generous. Hundreds of employees quietly donated hundreds of hours and hundreds of thousands of dollars to charity as well as contributing time and resources to disaster relief efforts such as the recent tragedy in New York on September 11th. I have also seen millions of dollars donated to charities since I started. Libraries and schools around the world have benefited from Bill and Melinda Gates and Microsoft's prosperity.

The Windows product has created tens of thousands of jobs across the United States, and provided great opportunities for even our competitors. I don't think it is in the US consumers, our economy, or the high tech industry's best interest to bring down this company.

In the short sidedness and self-serving attitude of the DOJ and our competitors, they have brought this suit against Microsoft. Judge Jackson has sent a dangerous precedent. Based on his interpretation of the anti-trust law, AOL, Cisco, Sun Microsystems, Intel, and Apple are all "monopolists" as well. Waging an attack on these companies as well would decimate our economy and jeopardize the United States preeminent position as the World Technology leader.

I would ask, as a one of the 50,000 employees at Microsoft, to settle this matter fairly and equitably.

Sincerely,

Shelley Way
Seattle, Washington

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